



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ARABIA.

*Smallpox at Hodeida.*ADEN, ARABIA, *March 25, 1897.*

SIR: I had been hearing of rumors of smallpox prevailing to a great extent in Hodeida and neighboring places on the Red Sea coast, and in order to get the truth of the matter I addressed a letter of inquiry to the consular agent, J. R. Muller, asking him to give me full particulars as to the number of cases and deaths from smallpox in Hodeida, as well as to whether the disease was prevailing back in the interior. This letter of mine was written February 20, and in it I urged him to answer immediately.

Fearing that I could not get much information from the request to Mr. Muller, I also addressed a letter of the same import to Mr. C. Foley, of the same place. In due time I received an answer from Mr. Foley giving me the information asked for, which letter I inclose in this dispatch. As you will see from the inclosed letter, a rather serious state of affairs exists in Hodeida and surrounding country.

I received a verbal message from Mr. Muller in answer to my letter of inquiry, in which he said the rumor about the prevalence of smallpox in Hodeida is all a mistake, that there were a few cases, but none of any importance.

I attach no credence to the verbal message of Mr. Muller, for there have been at least a dozen persons infected with smallpox taken from bungalows by the health officer here, who have come from Hodeida or that vicinity, and besides, all the natives here in the bazaar coincide with Mr. Foley's report. As you are aware, all the Mocha coffee of commerce comes from this port, a portion of it being brought here from the interior by caravans, but the greater portion comes from Hodeida and is sent here for transshipment. This coffee is all cleaned and prepared for shipment by manual labor, whether from the interior or Hodeida or Aden, and Sanaa is the great interior market for this article, and there is where this disease, according to Mr. Foley, is raging most extensively. There are also quite a lot of skins of sheep and goats being brought here for shipment to the United States from this same country, but I suppose as all these skins are thoroughly disinfected with naphthaline no contagion can be carried in them. Now I do not know whether this coffee can carry the contagion to the United States, New York being the largest market in the world for Mocha coffee, but I thought it best to inform the Department of these particulars and then be governed by your instructions.

I may say in closing, that there are some cases of smallpox here in the hospital, but they have all been imported, and there is none at all in this city with that exception.

Mr. Muller is engaged in handling both skins and coffee, the greater part of which goes to America.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

WM. M. MASTERSON,
United States Consul.

HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.]

HODEIDA, *March 8, 1897.*

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 6th of March to hand. I have made inquiries about the smallpox raging here, and I find that it is even worse than you were informed. During

the last four months there have been more than 1,000 deaths. I was told this by the sheik in charge of the graveyard. He says, however, that there has been a great decrease lately, and that only a few die daily at present.

From other sources I hear that the disease is very bad over the interior. At Zebid large numbers have died, and I hear from an Italian merchant that has just gone to Sanaa, that 5,000 deaths have occurred there, mostly children. This is about all I can tell you on this subject at present. If I hear anything new I will let you know. I, myself, do not think that the disease is on the decrease, but rather the contrary. * * *

I am of the opinion that there should be somebody here to safeguard this firm. Otherwise, a consular agency here is of no use whatever. As you have (at least I understand so) no jurisdiction for Hodeida, and therefore could not help it if any question turned up, I do not think it advisable to abolish the consular agency here.

In case you may ever require any more information from here I will be only too glad to oblige you.

Yours, truly,

G. FOLEY.

W. M. MASTERSON, Esq.,
United States Consul, Aden.

BRAZIL.

Sanitary report from Rio.

RIO DE JANEIRO, *February 8, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit report for the week ended February 6, 1897:

There were 8 deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, the same as in the foregoing week; 5 from yellow fever, a decrease of 5; 1 from smallpox, none in the foregoing week; 8 from beriberi, an increase of 3; 1 from enteric fever, a decrease of 3; 40 from tuberculosis, an increase of 2, and 282 from all causes, an increase of 17.

There is no marked change in the exceptionally good sanitary condition of the port and town for the season.

Since last report the following-named ships have been visited or received bills of health from this office: February 3, bark *Otago*, Swedish, for Tybee Roads, Georgia. February 4, steamship *Tolosa*, British, for Galveston, Tex. February 5, bark *Quitaria*, Portuguese, for Philadelphia, Pa., and bark *Rosenberg*, Norwegian, for Tybee Roads, Georgia. February 6, bark *Mariposa*, Portuguese, for Savannah, Ga. February 8, bark *Cambria*, British, for Pensacola, Fla.

Respectfully, yours,

R. CLEARY, M. D.,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

CUBA.

Smallpox and yellow fever in Cuban seaports.

May 8: The United States sanitary inspector at Habana reports that during the week ended May 6 there were in that city 18 deaths from yellow fever, with 70 new cases, and 96 new cases of smallpox, with 12 deaths.

May 4: The United States consul at Cardenas reports that during the week ended May 1 there were in that city 3 new cases and 1 death from yellow fever, and 18 cases and 2 deaths from smallpox.

April 30: The United States consul at Matanzas reports that during the week ended April 28 there were in that city 5 deaths from smallpox and 1 death from yellow fever.